

IMPROVED DETECTION OF MICROBIOLOGICAL GROWTH

ABSTRACT

According to the present invention, there is disclosed a method of
6 stabilizing the output signal of a system that detects microbiological growth
in a sealed sample container that contains a sample which may contain an
unknown microorganism. One embodiment relates to a method of
providing a sealed sample container which contains a fluid mixture of a
culture broth, the sample, and at least one poisoning agent for stabilizing the
base line pressure within a headspace above the fluid mixture in the
12 sample container. By monitoring pressure changes within the headspace of
the sealed sample container, the presence of microbiological growth within
the sealed sample container as a function of the change of the pressure in
the headspace is indicated.

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